

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the outstanding Office Action dated September 9, 2005.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Broussalian in view of Jones. Claims 1-8 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 9-10 and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn in light of the following reasons.

The present invention resides in an outfall valve which comprises a casing having an exterior wall provided with a coupler, an inner end of said coupler being provided with a first opening, a circle of hollow flow path being provided along said first opening, a hollow pipe connected with said casing and having a first end provided with a hook and a second end provided with a plurality of exterior threads, said hollow pipe being rotatable in 360 degrees with respect to said casing, a barrier edge being protrudingly provided adjacent said threads, a second opening going through an interior flow path of said hollow pipe, a first peripheral groove provided between said barrier edge and said hook and positioned at one side of said second opening, a second and third peripheral grooves provided between said barrier edge and said hook and positioned at another side of said second opening, each of said peripheral grooves being mounted with an O-ring, said hollow pipe being slidably fitted in said casing and movable between said barrier edge and said hook, combination of said casing and said hollow pipe forming an angle from 60 to 135 degrees, and a nozzle engaged with said exterior threads of said second end of said hollow pipe, said nozzle having a front end provided with a crevice, whereby the user outlet crevice can be easily adjusted to be vertical so that the user can conveniently drink the liquid from a water bag.

Broussalian, the first reference cited by the Examiner, discloses a valve comprising a casing (34 and 43) with a flow path circle, and a rotatable hollow pipe 44 with a hook 54, exterior threads (proximate reference numeral 9), an opening 57, and three grooves with O-rings (63, 65, 66). Nevertheless, this reference fails to disclose or teach an outfall valve which comprises a casing having an exterior wall provided with a coupler, an inner end of said coupler being provided with a first opening, a circle of hollow flow path being provided along said first opening, a hollow pipe connected with said casing and having a first end provided with a hook and a second end provided with a plurality of exterior threads, said hollow pipe being rotatable in 360 degrees with respect to said casing, a barrier edge being protrudingly provided adjacent said threads, a second opening going through an interior flow path of said hollow pipe, a first peripheral groove provided between said barrier edge and said hook and positioned at one side of said second opening, a second and third peripheral grooves provided between said barrier edge and said hook and positioned at another side of said second opening, each of said peripheral grooves being mounted with an O-ring, said hollow pipe being slidably fitted in said casing and movable between said barrier edge and said hook, combination of said casing and said hollow pipe forming an angle from 60 to 135 degrees, and a nozzle engaged with said exterior threads of said second end of said hollow pipe, said nozzle having a front end provided with a crevice. Hence, this reference can be clearly distinguished from the present invention.

Jones, the second reference cited by the Examiner, discloses a valve including a coupler 74 with interior threads 76 on the exterior wall of the casing at the outlet for convenient attachability of an appropriate nozzle. Similarly, this reference fail to teach or suggest an outfall valve which comprises a casing having an exterior wall provided with a coupler, an inner end of said coupler being provided with a first

opening, a circle of hollow flow path being provided along said first opening, a hollow pipe connected with said casing and having a first end provided with a hook and a second end provided with a plurality of exterior threads, said hollow pipe being rotatable in 360 degrees with respect to said casing, a barrier edge being protrudingly provided adjacent said threads, a second opening going through an interior flow path of said hollow pipe, a first peripheral groove provided between said barrier edge and said hook and positioned at one side of said second opening, a second and third peripheral grooves provided between said barrier edge and said hook and positioned at another side of said second opening, each of said peripheral grooves being mounted with an O-ring, said hollow pipe being slidably fitted in said casing and movable between said barrier edge and said hook, combination of said casing and said hollow pipe forming an angle from 60 to 135 degrees, and a nozzle engaged with said exterior threads of said second end of said hollow pipe, said nozzle having a front end provided with a crevice. Thus, this reference is in no way similar to the present invention.

Accordingly, even if the disclosures of the cited references are combined together, the combined disclosure still fails to teach each and every element of the claimed invention and so the subject matter sought to be patented as a whole would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The applicant has reviewed the prior art as cited by the Examiner but not used in the rejection and believes that the new claims clearly and distinctly patentably define over such prior art.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition of allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leong C. Lei".

Signature

Leong C. Lei

Registration No. 50402

December 8, 2005